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ABSTRACT

Subtitled "A 'Mixed Bag' of Information on American Culture of the 1920's and 1930's," the resource guide was prepared by a librarian to stimulate student interest in studying this period in United States History and to provide the social studies teacher with suggestions for student research. Introductory material encourages students to approach a social studies assignment with a positive attitude, to look beyond the school library for resources, and to browse for ideas. A check list offers a step by step outline of a search procedure. The body of the guide is arranged according to the Dewey Classification system, which is instructional in the use of libraries and encourages browsing. Topic Ideas are listed within each major and sub area, providing more than one hundred suggestions for projects, research reports, and reading areas. An examination of the period through this guide offers an interdisciplinary approach to life and the times: the history, industry and commerce, sociology, creative arts, culture, science and technology. The guide is suitable for both the junior and senior high school level. Short bibliographies are listed with most of the sections. The accompanying Mini Bibliography provides reference to fictional works of and about the period, annotated non-fictional works, and some audiovisual materials. (JMB)

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TRY IT - YOU'LL LIKE IT

A "Mixed Bag" of information on American Culture of the 1920's and 1930's, including:

1. Over 100 suggestions for Social Studies and English teachers and students for research papers and projects.
2. Brief orientation notes on locating material in the library.
3. A "Mini-Bibliography on American Culture in the 20's and 30's.

SO005697

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Price: $2.00

January 1, 1973

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PREFACE

TO STUDENTS

When you are given a history assignment, such as your present one - A research paper on American culture in the 1920's and 1930's - your immediate reaction might be, to put it mildly, quite negative. The purpose of this "mixed bag" is to show you that such assignments can be both interesting and fun.

The 20's and 30's are two of the most fascinating decades in the history of the United States: An era of prosperity, gaity and youth, followed by the hardest times of our history.

To gather material for this assignment, don't limit yourself to the history section of the library. You'll find interesting and fascinating pieces of information everywhere. Many of the areas overlap, so spend some time digging for material.

TRY BROWSING - YOU'LL LIKE IT

To aid you in your search for material, the following pages (set up by Dewey Decimal Classifications) will give you ideas for your assignment and hints on where to find material.

Most of the following pages will refer to a few books on a specific subject. These represent only a few of the library's holdings, but they will serve as a "starter". Refer also to the "Mini-Bibliography" listing books containing material on all subject areas. (Use check list on following page)

HAPPY HUNTING!

CHECK LIST

1. Look through the following pages and select a topic of interest to you.

2. Check some of the books listed in the "Mini-Bibliography" for background material on your topic. You might also want to check other books in the history section which were not included in this bibliography. Use the index in the back of the book to locate material.

3. Refer to the card catalog.

4. Go to the Dewey Decimal sections referred to on attached sheets. BROWSE.

5. We have selected issues of the New York Times on microfilm. This will be one of your best sources of information on almost every topic. Subject index available.

   Note: Other libraries in the area have complete issues of the New York Times on microfilm.

6. Check with librarian to see if other audio-visual materials are available. (Records, filmstrips, etc.)

7. Use Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature to locate magazine articles. If the school's magazine files do not go back far enough, check the holdings of other libraries in the area.

8. Check biographies - both individual and collective.

9. Fiction Books

10. Check vertical or pamphlet file.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Consider supplementing your report with models, drawings, sketches, or make a set of slides using Ektographic camera.

DEWEY DECIMAL NO. 000 GENERAL WORKS

070 NEWSPAPER JOURNALISM (Including periodicals)

Topic Ideas

Discuss growth in the number of newspapers in the 1920's, and the changing character of their coverage - from cold facts to interpretation.

Growth of newspaper chains and boom in syndicated columns.

Changing tastes in magazines in the 20's and 30's.

Note: 1st news magazine was Time started in 1923.
Innovation of 30's was pictorial journalism.
Life introduced in 1936.

Bernarr (Body Love) Macfadden and his magazines, Physical Culture, True Story and his other lurid publications.

Discussion of tabloids and the controversy over them. Try to get samples or photostats.

Mott, Frank, American Journalism, Macmillan, 1962
Emery, Edwin, The Press in America, Prentice Hall, 1961
Goodstone, Tony, The Pulps, Bonanza, 1970
Wood, James, Magazines in the U. S., Ronald, 1971
Tebbel, John, The American Magazine, Hawthorn, 1969

DEWEY DECIMAL NO. 100 PHILOSOPHY

Included in this section are books on philosophy, psychology, logic, sensationalism and ethics. Material for the following topics will also be found in other areas of the library, particularly in Social Studies section.

Topic Ideas

Reasons for revolution of younger generation in manners and morals; Post war disillusionment, Freudian teachings, automobile, prohibition, sex and confession magazines, movies, technology. Youth bent on changing the world by slapping conventions in the face. Liberation was their keyword.

Generation Gap! Todays grandmothers and grandfathers were "only yesterday" wearing raccoon coats, carrying hip or garter flasks, drinking bootleg booze, petting in autos, dancing the Charleston, and shocking their parents!

Freud introduced psychoanalysis in 1909, but his teachings didn't become popular in America until the 20's. Psychiatry and psychology were national manias or fads.

Sensationalism surrounding gangster funerals. (Cost up to $100,000. Al Capone sent rival $8,000 funeral wreath!) Other sensationalism: Valentino's death, Lindbergh kidnapping, Scopes Trial, Morro Castle disaster, Man on Ledge, etc.

Discuss "Lost Generation" epitomized by Hemingway, Fitzgerald, Gertrude Stein, etc.

Rise of social consciousness in 1930's.

Family ethics, ethics of temperance and intemperance, sexual ethics.

Parry, Albert, Garrets and Pretenders, Dover, 1960
Esler, Anthony, Bombs, Beards & Barricades, Stein & Day, 1971
Lipton, Lawrence, The Holy Barbarians, Messner, 1959

DEWEY DECIMAL NO. 200 - RELIGION

Topic Ideas

Write of mass soul-saving, hard sell showmanship and vast profits realized by Aimee Semple McPherson, Billy Sunday and others. The Age of Revivals - the 20's.

Influence of Father Charles C. Coughlin, the Radio Priest.

Discuss Clarence Darrow's challenging William Jennings Bryan on the literal truth of the Bible at the trial of John T. Scopes.

Fundamentalists vs. Modernists. Impact of science "revolution" on religion.

Minor Religious cults of the 30's: Father Divine, Negro Evangelist, Oxford Group headed by Dr. Frank Buchanan, and Jehovah's Witnesses.

Effect of depression on religion and the churches.

Religion as a campaign issue in 1928.

Discuss furor caused by Sinclair Lewis's book Elmer Gantry.

Discuss public resistance to new concepts such as evolution.

Changing morality.

Moore, Edmund, A Catholic Runs for President, Bonald, 1956
DeCamp, L. S., The Great Monkey Trial, Doubleday, 1968
Ginger, Ray, Six Days or Forever, Beacon, 1958.

DEWEY DECIMAL NO. 300 - SOCIAL SCIENCES

300 SOCIAL SCIENCES

This section has material on sociology, social movements, culture, social change, human ecology, social organizations, family, special groups and social problems of ethnic groups and minorities.

Topic Ideas

Youth rebellion of the 20's. Questioning of elder's authority, changes in morals, dress, etc. Post war disillusionment.

Cynicism of young of the 30's. Loss of faith in religion, moral precepts, capitalism, institutions of government and commerce. Respect for "long hairs" (intellectuals and theorists), and trend toward communicm.

Class distinctions and breakdown of these distinctions. Cafe society. Middle class culture.

Move to cities. Popular song asked, "How We Gonna Keep 'em Down on the farm after They've Seen Paree?"

Black migration from South to North.

Changes in family life due to onslaught of auto, highways, radios, movies, etc. Changes in standards of living.

Discrimination due to race and religion. Racial conflicts.

Marcus Garvey's Universal Improvement Association, raising millions of dollars for black emigration back to Africa.

320 POLITICAL SCIENCE

Information here on political theory, relation of state to individuals and groups, individual rights and protection, suffrage, political parties, etc.

Topic Ideas

Woman suffrage.

Flappers as liberated women - Progress of Woman's Liberation.

Big Red Scare

Huey Long - American Dictator

Freedom of the Press - Controversy over tabloid magazines & papers.

Movie Censorship.

Right Wing Extremism.

330 ECONOMICS

Includes labor, industrial, financial and land economics, cooperatives, economic theories, income and wealth.

Topic Ideas

Women - New labor force.

Make a chart or graph showing Dow Jones averages or prices of selected stocks over 20's and/or 30's. (Suggest getting info from N. Y. Times on microfilm)

Make a chart of graph on prices of items of your choice, such as food, rents, haircuts, autos, household appliances, etc. (N. Y. Times)

Installment Buying - Puritan virtue of saving gave way to credit plans.

Consumer Cooperatives of the 30's.

Labor strikes - auto, coal, steel, mines.

Migrant Labor Problems.

Florida Land Boom of the 20's.

Buy American Campaign of the 30's.

340 LAW

Research one of famous trials of the 20's and 30's, for example:

Sacco-Vanzetti	Leopold-Loeb
Scopes Trial	Hauptmann Trial
Billy Mitchell	Scottsboro Case

Halls-Mills

350 PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Topic Ideas

Effect of 18th Amendment on Lawlessness.

J. Edgar Hoover and the G-Men. (Movies of the 20's made heroes of crooks and gangsters. In the 30's G-Men became idols and heroes.)

Administration of Local Government: City bosses, such as Crump of Memphis, Frank Hague of Jersey City, James Michael Curry of Boston, Thomas Pendergast of Kansas City, etc.

Roosevelt's attempt to pack the Supreme Court.

Prohibition Protest Groups: WCTU, Anti-Saloon League, Bible Belt folks and teetottling farmers.

360 SOCIAL WELFARE

Social work and social agencies, welfare, criminology, penalogy, insurance, etc.

Topic Ideas

Discuss gang warfare and some of crimes and criminals of times. (Lindbergh kidnapping, Bonnie and Clyde, Pretty Boy Floyd, O'Banion Gang, John Dillinger, Al Capone, Murder, Inc., Valentine Day Massacre, Machine Gun Kelly, Baby Face Nelson, etc.) Good source of information: Liberty Magazine, Fall 1972.

Activities of Ku Klux Klan

Riots, Massacres, Violence (Wall Street Bombing, 1920, Tulsa, 1921, Herrin Massacre, 1922, Bonus Army, 1932, Dearborn Massacre 1932, Chicago Eviction Riot, 1931, Harlem 1935, Memorial Day Massacre 1937, etc.

Dr. F. E. Townsend's Plan for old people.

Social Programs of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Special Bibliography on Violence:

Heaps, W. A., Riots, U.S.A., Seabury, 1966
Brown, R. M., American Violence, Prentice Hall, 1970
Hofstader, Richard, American Violence, Vintage, 1971
Demaris, Ovid, America, the Violent, Cowles, 1970
Alloway, Laurence, Violent America, N. Y. Graphic, 1971

370 EDUCATION

Contrast college student of the 20's with those of the 30's, or today's students.

More students going to high school and college. How did education effect social mobility.

Adult education. Effect of WPA programs

380 PUBLIC SERVICES, PUBLIC UTILITIES, ETC.

Effect of highway development on customs of people..highway problems.

Ocean transportation - luxury liners.

New luxury trains of the 30's...first air conditioned Pullmans. Diesel locomotives went into service in 1925.

History of Air Mail Service.

Passenger Flights - Transcontinental service, stewardesses, meal service in flight, etc. Barnstorming.

Famous airplane flights: Lindbergh, Earhart, Byrd, Post, Bennett

390 CUSTOM AND FOLKLORE

Topic Ideas

Etiquette - Emily Post's 1st etiquette book published in 1922

Fashions of the Day (Men and Women) What they wore as well as how they wore it! Racoon coats, hip flasks, beach styles, hem lines, silk stockings, cosmetics, cloche hats, fake jewelry, etc. As a project you may want to dress a doll in the costume of the times. (Woman's Wear Daily has publication covering Sixty Years of Fashion)

Role of women - See also biography and suffrage sections.

1921 was the start of the Miss America contests. Contrast early ones with those of today.

Hair styles (Reference: Charles, Ann, History of Hair, Bonanza, 1970)

Fads - Some listed below:

Rocking chair derbies	dance marathons
Yo-Yo	cross country races
Goldfish Eating	stuffing telephone booths
Flagpole sitting	chain letter craze
Pajama wearing	crossword puzzles (1st book 1925)
Mah Jongg craze	Contract bridge
Jigsaw puzzles	Monopoly
Knock-knock jokes	World's champion - anything

DEWEY DECIMAL 400 - LANGUAGE

The language was colorful!

Sugar Daddy	Killer Diller	Hotsy-Totsy
Making Whoopee	Hepcat	Lounge Lizard
Spank the Skin	Boogie Woogie	Ickie
Giggle Water	Heebie Jeebies	Cutting the rug
Spifflicated	Drugstore cowboy	Cat's meow

Morris, Wm. & Mary, Dictionary of Word and Phrase Origins, Harper
Partridge, Eric, Slang Today and Yesterday, Bonanza
Time-Life, Fabulous Century, 1920 and 1930 books
Hendrickson, Robt, Human Words, Chilton, 1972
Klapp, Orrin, Heroes, Villans, & Fools, Prentice Hall, 1962

DEWEY DECIMAL NO. 500 SCIENCE

Topic Ideas

Conflict between Science and Religion.

Scientific discoveries, such as development of insulin, sulfa drugs, plastics, artificial lung, etc.

Prestige of science was phenomenal. People believed anything could be accomplished by science.

Albert Einstein was front page news.

Newspapers were filled with information on scientific discoveries with columns devoted to articles informing people about scientific ideas, products, etc.

Theory of Evolution widely discussed.

Rash of new scientific and pseudo-scientific theories and ideas.

DEWEY DECIMAL NO. 600 TECHNOLOGY

620's ENGINEERING

Development of the radio in the 20's and 30's.

Highway development.

History of flight - airplanes, dirigibles, helicopters, stunt flying and barnstormers.

Automobiles and the automotive industry.

Building of Boulder Dam and the TVA Project.

Chicago and New York Worlds Fairs.

630's AGRICULTURE

Dust Bowl - disaster in farm lands

Work of the Civilian Conservation Corps

Farmers Revolt

Effect of the New Deal's agriculture programs

640's HOME ECONOMICS

Make a graph of various foods, showing price levels at various periods of time.

How technology made the life of a housewife easier.

650's BUSINESS

Changes in advertising from soft sell, factual ads to ads which appealed to emotions. Self-improvement pitch, cheesecake ads, psychological approach.

Radio advertising. Product identification with radio personalities and stars.

Roadside and billboard advertising. Who can forget those famous Burma Shave ads? Reference: Verse by the Side of the Road by Frank Rowsome, Jr., Dutton, 1965.

Merchandising Revolution. Establishment of chain stores in the 20's. Ever hear of the Piggly Wiggly's? First of self service supermarkets, known as "groceterias".

Change in buying habits. Old habit of thrift gave way to installment purchases - especially automobiles. How about this? In 1924 a Ford sold for $290. 3/4 of them were bought on time!

660's CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY

Food technology. Commercial canning replaced home processing of foods. What was the reaction of housewives to this.

Charles Birdseye introduced frozen foods in the 30's.

DEWEY DECIMAL NO. 700 - FINE ARTS

Some of the Dewey Decimal numbers which will be of interest when researching American Culture in the 20's and 30's are listed below:

700	The Arts	790	Recreation
720	Architecture	791.4	Motion Pictures, Radio
730	Sculpture	792	Theatre
741.5	Comic Strips	793	Indoor Games & Amusements
770	Photography	796	Outdoor Sports & Games
780	Music		

700 ART AND PAINTING

How did art of the 20's and 30's reflect the spirit of the times?

Write a paper on the art of the 20's and 30's. The following are some of the movments of the period: Dadaism, cubism, abstract art, expressionism, realism, modernism. Collages were also popular.

Effect of WPA on art.

720 & 730 ARCHITECTURE AND SCULPTURE

Write a paper on architecture of the period. You might want to refer to some of the leading architects, and also cover theatre architecture and the New York and Chicago World Fair buildings.

Sculpture.

741.5 COMIC STRIPS

Discuss some of the comic strip heroes and heroines, such a s Flash Gordon, Little Orphan Annie, Dick Tracy, Jack Armstrong, Flash Gordon, Tarzan...a world of make believe during hard times.

Show how the comic strip idols promoted various products such as breakfast foods, toys, etc., and give-away trinkets.

Try to locate some of the "Big Little Books" (10¢ comics) for possible comparison with today's comic strips.

Couperie, Pierre & Horn, Maurice, A History of the Comic Strip, Crown '68
Feiffer, Jules, The Great Comic Book Heroes, Dial, 1965
Becker, Stephen, Comic Art in America, Simon & Schuster, 1959
Daniels, Lex, Comix, Dutton, 1971
Horn, Maurice, 75 Years of the Comics, Boston Book, 1971
White, David, The Funnies, Collier-Macmillan, 1963

770 PHOTOGRAPHY

Candid camera photography was the fad in the 20's. Discuss this and type of equipment use.

Cover improvements in the motion picture photography.

Documentary photography, telling it as it was, came into prominence in the 30's.

Electronic flash and Kodachrome film introduced. Discuss this and other improvements in field of photography.

780 MUSIC (Ask for list of phonograph records)

Contrast music of the 20's with that of 30's or with today's hits.

Tin Pan Alley. See Ewen, Daivd, The Life and Death of Tin Pan Alley, Funk & Wagnall, 1964.

Discuss "real" jazz of musicians such as Louis Armstrong, Bix Beiderbecke and King Joe Oliver.

Discuss musicals of the 20's and 30's (Broadway and Movies)

Composers of the period: George Gerschwin, Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern, George M. Cohan, Cole Porter, etc.

Nonsense songs of the 30's (Bei Mir Bist Du Schon, Flat Foot Floogee, Three Little Fishes, etc.)

Discuss various types of music (Jazz, Blues, etc.)

Big Band Era (Artie Shaw, Jimmy and Tommy Dorsey, Benny Goodman, Glenn Miller, Harry James, Duke Ellington, Count Basie, etc.

Discuss background of some of the songs included in Hard Hitting Songs for Hard-Hit People, compiled by Alan Lomax, Oak Publications, '67.

Music and entertainment in Harlem nightclubs, such as the Cotton Club catering to white patrons.

How music reached the people: Radio broadcasts direct from hotels, supper clubs, ballrooms, live and recorded broadcasts, juke boxes, Saturday night dances in clubs, gyms, etc.

791.44 RADIO ENTERTAINMENT

Effect of radio on nation's ways of thinking and living.

History of radio.

Rise of radio commercials.

Discuss soap operas, such as One Man's Family, Life can be beautiful, Against the Storm, etc.

Orson Welles Man from Mars Broadcast:

Koch, Howard, Panic Broadcast, Little, 1970
Cantril, Hadley, The Invasion from Mars, Harper Torchbook, 1966
-Evolution Record, War of the Worlds

Discuss radio of the 30's as a cultural influence - symphonies, opera,

News broadcasting, local and foreign. (Roosevelt's Fireside Chats, Town Meeting of the Air, We the People, etc.)

Amos 'n Andy shows - stereotype of black Americans.

Discuss radio programs (serials, variety shows, amateur shows, Sunday funnies, sports casts, comedy shows, Sunday sermons, morning exercises, etc.) Some of the stars: Fibber McGee and Molly, George Burns and Gracie Allen, Jack Benny and Mary Livingston, Amos 'n Andy, Fred Allen, Rudy Vallee, Major Bowes, Kate Smith, Charlie McCarthy, Lone Ranger, Aldrich Family, etc.

Settal, Irving, Pictorial History of Radio, Grossett, 1960
Mitchell, Curtis, Cavalcade of Broadcasting, Follett
Lackmann, Ron, Remember Radio, Putnam, 1970
Westinghouse Broadcasting Co. Record, First 50 years of Radio
Longines Symphonette Record, Jack Benny Presents Golden Memories of Radio

791.43 MOTION PICTURE ENTERTAINMENT

Effect of movies of the 20's and 30's on American life.

Movie censorship. Contrast with ratings of movies today.

History of "talkies" and technical progress made in 20's and 30's.

How movies reflected or failed to reflect spirit of the times. Consider various types of movies:

Gangster movies
Cafe society
Modern Generation - Jazz Age Youth
Movies glorifying love - Latin lovers
Westerns, Everson, W. K. Pictorial History of the Western Film
War Stories
Spectaculars
Horror films
True Confessions
Controversial Issues
Documentaries - Jacobs, Lewis, The Documentary Tradition, Hopkins & Blake, 1972
Movie Villains - Everson, William K. The Bad Guys, 1964
Tarzan Films - Essoe, Gabe, Tarzan of the Movies, 1968
Comedies

Hollywood and the Fan Magazines (See book of same name by Martin Levin

Compare adulation of idols of the 20's and 30's with today's stars. Some of the Gods and Goddesses are listed below:

Rudolph Valentino (The Great Lover)	Douglas Fairbanks
Mary Pickford (America's Sweetheart)	Charlie Chaplin
Clara Bow (The IT Girl)	Tom Mix
Jean Harlow	Gary Cooper
Shirley Temple	John Barrymore
Ginger Rogers	Clark Gable
Theda Bara	Lillian Gish
Gloria Swanson	Buster Keaton
Lon Chaney	Harold Lloyd

The Child Stars: Shirley Temple, Jane Withers, Judy Garland, Freddie Bartholomew, etc. Zierold, Norman J., The Child Stars, '65

Deluxe Movie Palaces, such as N. Y. Roxy, Hollywood Loew, etc.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Griffith, Richard & Mayer, Arthur, The Movies, Simon & Schuster, '70
O'Leary, Liam, The Silent Cinema, Dutton, 1968
Schickel, Richard, The History of an Art & Institution, Basic, 1964
Maltin, Leonard, The Great Movie Shorts, Crown, 1971
Quigley, Martin & Gertner, Richard, Films in America, Golden, 1970
Zinman, David, 50 Classic Motion Pictures, Crown, 1972
Crowder, Basley, The Great Films, Putnam
Weiss, Ken, To be Continued, Crown, 1972
Blum, Daniel, A Pictorial History of the Talkies, Putnam
Sennet, Ted, Warner Brothers Present, Arlington, 1971
Bergman, Andrew, We're in the Money, NYU
Hall, Ben, Best Remaining Seats, Crown, 1972
Baxter, John, Hollywood in the Thirties, 1968
Higham, Charles, Hollywood at Sunset, Saturday Review Press, 1972

Check county film catalogs for old movies and films on history of movies.

792 THEATRE

How did the depression affect the Broadway theatre?

Effect of WPA Federal Theatre Project.

Rise and fall of vaudeville

Burlesque.

Stage actors and actresses.

Discuss specific plays and compare them with today's hits.

793 INDOOR GAMES & AMUSEMENTS

Mah Jongg swept the country - 1923
Excitement over crossword puzzles - first puzzle book 1925
Monopoly
Contract Bridge - 30's.
Jigsaw puzzles - 30's.

796 SPORTS

Names in the news:

Baseball: Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Dizzy Dean, Pepper Martin
Joe DiMaggio, Carl Hubble, Lefty Grove

Football: Red Grange, Knute Rockne, Four Horsemen of
Notre Dame.

Tennis: Big Bill Tilden, Ellsworth Vines, Don Budge,
Helen Wills

Boxing: Jack Dempsey, Gene Tunney, Jess Willard, Joe Louis,
Luis Firpo, Primo Carnera, Jack Sharkey

Golf: Bobby Jones, Walter Hagen

Track: Jesse Owens, Babe Didrikson, Glenn Cunningham

Swimming: Johnny Weismuller, Gertrude Ederly

Discuss role of blacks in American sports in the 20's.

Note: Miniature golf came into being in the 1930's. 6 day bike races; Roller Skating and roller "derbies" were also popular.

Hollander, Zander, Great American Athletes of the 20th Century
Random, 1966
Durant, John & Betterman, Otto, Pictorial History of American
Sports, Barnes, 1952
Associated Press, A Century of Sports, Hammond, 1971
Lardner, Rex, The Legendary Champions, American Heritage, 1972
Esquire's Great Men and Moments in Sports, Harper, 1962

793.3 DANCES

Discuss dance marathons, possibly relating them to "They Shoot Horses, Don't They?"

Popularity of dancing as a form of entertainment - rise and fall of big ballrooms such as Aragon, Trianon, Palomar, etc.

Dance Styles of the 20's and 30's: Charleston, Jitterbugging, Big Apple, Shag, Lindy Hop, Black Bottom, Suzie Q, Truckin', Samba and Rumba.

Sally Rand's Fan Dance. Other names: Isador Duncan & Fred Astaire

Tea Dances

DEWEY DECIMAL NO. 800, LITERATURE

NOVELS

Gertrude Stein described the disillusioned writers of the 20's as the "Lost Generation". Discuss their alienation or rebellion.

How did F. Scott Fitzgerald's writings reflect the spirit of the Jazz Age? What was the public's reaction to his writings, particularly This Side Of Paradise?

Results of WPA Federal Writers Project.

Discuss American Writers Congress and League of American Writers as related to Communism.

Discuss proletarian and Marxist writings of John Dos Passos, James T. Farrell, Richard Wright, John Steinbeck and others.

Discuss tough guy novelists of the 30's, reasons for their popularity: James M. Cain, Horace McCoy, Raymond Chandler, Dashiell Hammell, etc.

Regional or Historical novelists: William Faulkner, Erskine Caldwell, Marjorie Rawlings, Edith Wharton, William Saroyan, Robert Penn Warren, Ellen Glasgow, Willa Cather, Edna Ferber and Margaret Mitchell.

Negro Literature of the 20's and 30's. Negro writers and treatment of negroes in literature.

Writers searching for social significance: John Dos Passos, Ernest Caldwell, Ernest Hemingway, Thomas Wolfe, Sinclair Lewis & J. T. Farrell.

DRAMA

Leading Playwrights: Eugene O'Neill, Maxwell Anderson, Moss Hart, Clifford Odets, Lillian Hellman, George S. Kaufman, Rogert Sherwood, Erskine Caldwell.

Effect of WPA Federal Writers Project.

Politics in the American Theatre, politically inspired theatre groups, such as Group Theatre. (Ref: Clifford Odets in particular.)

POETRY

T. S. Eliot's influence on other poets of the time.

Leading poets: T. S. Eliot, Ezra Pound, Robinson Jeffers, E. E. Cummings, Hart Crane, Vachel Lindsay, Sara Teasdale, Carl Sandburg, Edgar Lee Masters, Amy Lowell, etc.

WIT AND HUMOR

Will Rogers, W. C. Fields, Peter Arno, Ring Lardner, Damon Runyon, Robert Benchley, Alexander Woollcott, James Thurber, Dorothy Parker, Ogden Nash

Bier, Jesse, Rise and Fall of American Humor, Holt
Untermeyer, Louis, Treasury of Great Humor, McGraw, 1972
Carlinsky, Dan, Century of College Humor, Random

DEWEY DECIMAL NO. 900 - HISTORY

One of the main purposes of this paper is to get students out of the history section of the library when doing reports for history classes. I am therefore not including any projects or ideas for topics requiring books in this section of the library with exception of biographies.

Note: You may however want to refer to the following Dewey Decimal numbers for additional information on your subject.

973	U. S. History
973.9	" " - 20th Century, 1901
973.91	" " - Early 20th Century, 1901-1953
973.917	" " - Administration of FDR, 1933-45
917.3	U. S. - Social Life and Customs

Hint: If you are working on the history of any country, but also want books on social life and customs, you can find the Dewey Decimal number by inserting a "1" after the "9". For example:

Great Britain - History	942
Great Britain - Social Life and Customs	914.2

920 BIOGRAPHY

Like fiction, biographies will give the reader a great deal of information about history and cultural life. For example, the biography Zelda by Nancy Mitford deals with the wife of F. Scott Fitzgerald, and gives an excellent account of Jazz Age Living.

Note: Don't forget the collective biographies. Instead of books about a single individual, a collective biography gives the lives of a group of people. Sample titles: Poets of our Time, Famous Negro Music Makers, Great American Heroines, etc.

FICTION

"Fancy with fact is just one fact the more."

Robert Browning

Think you have to go to the history section or non-fiction section of the library for information on a particular event or period in history? Not so! Historical fiction can be informative, and at the same time fascinating reading.

The following titles and annotations are taken from American Historical Fiction by A. T. Dickinson, Jr., Scarecrow Press, 1971. It's only a partial listing to give you some idea of what can be culled from fiction books. Other listings from Logasa, Hanna, Historical Fiction, McKinley.

The 1920's and 1930's

Louis Adamic, Grandsons: Cross section of American life in the 20's. Story centers around a neurotic war veteran, an Al Capone henchman and a labor organizer.

Sherwood Anderson, Kit Brandon: Depicts the confusion of values in American life in the 20's, factory working conditions and bootlegging.

Gertrude Atherton, Black Oxen: Story of life in the sophisticated social and literary circles of New York City in 1922.

Ray Bradbury, Dandeline Wine: One summer in the life of a 12 year old boy in a small town in Illinois in 1928.

John Dos Passos, Trilogy U.S.A.: Pictures social and economic problems of the 20's.

Theodore Dreiser, An American Tragedy: Graphic picture of American society in the 20's.

F. Scott Fitzgerald: The Beautiful and Dammed, This Side of Paradise, The Great Gatsby, re the Jazz Age

Harper Lee, To Kill a Mockinbird: 2 children growing up in the 30's in Alabama witness violence when lawyer father defends Negro.

John Steinbeck's In Dubious Battle, Of Mice and Men and The Grapes of Wrath re migrant workers.

Robert Penn Warren, All the King's men, Based on life of Huey Long

Thomas Wolfe, You Can't Go Home Again: Observations on economic and political life from Depression to spread of Nazism.

Upton Sinclair's books: Oil, Boston, The Wet Parade, Between Two Worlds and Another Pamela on social problems.

MINI-BIBLIOGRAPHY

The following are only a few of the many books available on American Culture of the 20's and 30's. I selected these as they proved most helpful in preparing topic ideas on preceding pages.

Time Life, This Fabulous Century Books, Time-Life, 1970

THE GREATEST SET of books covering period 1870 to 1970. Each book covers one decade. Numerous illustrations; stress on cultural rather than historical events.

American Heritage History of the 20's and 30's, 1970

Contains exerpts from writings of the period, short biographies, numerous illustrations. Coverage of rural America, crime, strikes, role of women, fads, new morality and the arts.

Congdon, Don, The 30's, a Time to Remember, Simon & Schuster, 1962

Each chapter deals with some phase of social reform, politics, sports, the lively arts, disasters, etc.

Bendiner, Robert, Just Around the Corner, Harper, 1967

A highly selective history of the 30's. The author's impressions of the period as he lived it.

Terkel, Studs, Hard Times, Pantheon, 1970

An oral history of the Great Depression. Using the interview technique, he has captured the feel of the Depression from artists, farmers, sportsmen, etc.

Allen, Frederick Lewis, Only Yesterday, Harper 1957

An informal history of the 20's. Covers political, economic, social and cultural aspects.

Allen, Frederick, Lewis, Since Yesterday, Harper, 1962

Fashions, customs, sports, amusements of the 330's. Sequel to Only Yesterday.

Leighton, Isabel, The Aspirin Age., 1919-1941, Simon & Schuster

Twenty-two authors cover the most significant news events of the period, using interview technique.

Daniels, Jonathan, The Time Between the Wars, Doubleday, 1966

Author tells story of "the boom and the bust" years, primarily in terms of people.

Barrett, Marvin, The Years Between, CBS, 1962

Covers Paris in the 20's and 30's, agriculture, abdication of King Edward VIII, and historical information.

Barrett, Marvin, The Jazz Age, NBC, 1959

Over 250 pictures on sports, aviation, KKK, fads, the arts, sports, etc.

Rosenberg, Bernard and White, David, Mass Culture, Free Press 1957

Insights of 51 literary critics, social scientist, journalists and art critics concerned with the social effects of mass media on American life.

Sklar, Robert, The Plastic Age 1917-1930, Braziller, 1970

Popular and literary culture well covered by numerous writers.

Susman, Warren, Culture and Commitment: 1929-1945, Braziller, 1970

This and book listed above are part of American culture series.

Wecter, Dixon, The Age of the Great Depression, Macmillan, 1948

Coverage of many phases of American civilization: The family, church, education, the arts, morals, recreation, etc.

Leuchtenburg, William, The Perils of Prosperity, U of Chi., 1958

Covers political, social, economic and cultural aspects.

American Heritage American Manners and Morals, 1969

A picture history of how we behaved and misbehaved.

Time Capsules - History of the Year, condensed from pages of Time

Simon, Rita, As We Saw the Thirties, U of Illinois, 1967

Essays on social and political movements

The Life History of the United States, Volumes 10 and 11.

The Annals of America, Volumes 14 and 15, Encyclopedia Britannica

Cowley, Malcolm, Think Back on Us, Southern Ill., 1967

Collection of essays on intelluctual, social and literary history.

Boardman, F. W., Jr. America and the Jazz Age, Walck, 1968

Covers politics, pastimes and popular culture.

Horan, James D. The Desperate Years, Bonanza, 1962

A pictorial history of the 30's

Dodds, John W., Everyday Life in 20th Century America, Putnam, 1964

Lively social history telling what it was like in the good old days.

Ross, Isabel, Taste in America, Crowell

Parry, Albert, Garrets and Pretenders, Dover, 1960

History of Bohemianism in America

Carson, Gerald, The Polite Americans, Morrow, 1966

A wide angle view of our more or less good manners.

Ostrander, G. M. American Civilization in the first Machine Age, 1890-1940, Harper, 1970

Shows how culture and society have been changed by technology

Thaman, Sister Mary Patrice, Manners & Morals of the 20's, Bookman

Reveals what leading religious faiths of America thought of the manners and morals of the 20's.

Sann, P., Fads, Follies and Delusions of the American People, Crown

A pictorial survey of the madnesses, crazes, and crowd phenomena of the last 50 years.

Klapp, Orrie, Heroes, Villians and Fools, Prentice Hall, 1962

Changing American character as reflected in slang labels.

AUDIO-VISUAL

Filmstrip House, American Decades: The 1920's & 1930's

McGraw Hill Film, The Golden Twenties

Imperial Film Corp. History as the News Camera Saw It

Westinghouse Broadcasting Co. Records, 1st 50 years of Radio

Longines Symphonette Society, Jack Benny Presents Golden Memories of Radio

New York Times on Microfilm

Check county and state film libraries for films, filmstrips etc.